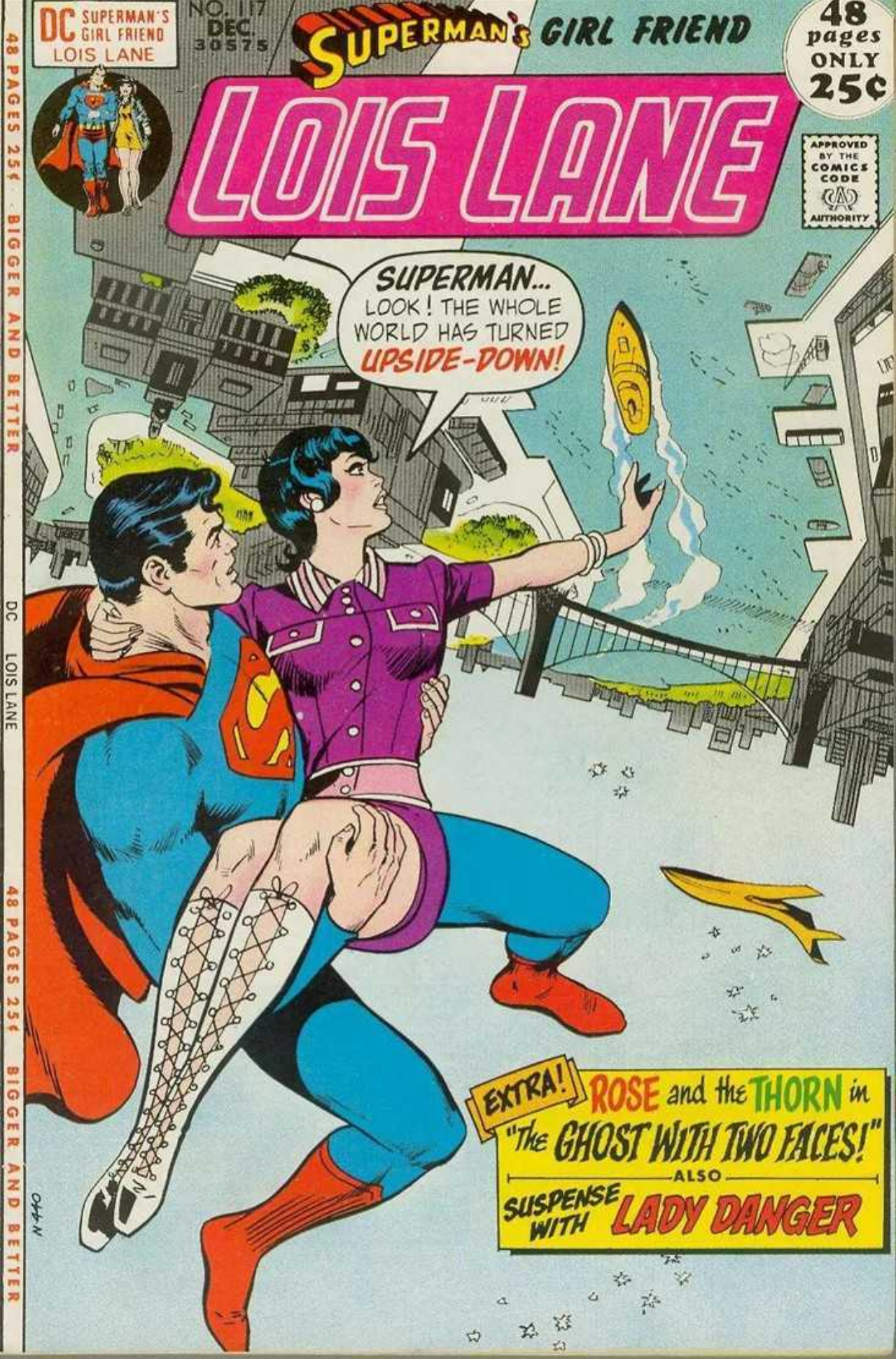
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BUT THE BOTTLE IS NOT DESTINED TO REACH THE OCEAN. A FREAK LIGHTNING BOLT STRIKES...
...MOMENTARILY OPENING A RIFT IN THE TIME-DIMENSION... AND THE BOTTLE IS GONE!
BUT THE BOTTLE HAS NOT BEEN DESTROYED. IN ANOTHER TIME-ERA, IT STILL FLOATS ON THE WATERS OF A PARK LAKE IN METROPOLIS... WAITING FOR LOIS LANE AND SUPERMAN TO FIND THIS...
S.O.S.--from TOMORROW!
LOIS LANE
SCRIPT=ROBERT KANIGHER
PENCILS=WERNER ROTH
INKS=VINCE COLLETTA
N-372
1

SUPERMAN'S GIRL FRIEND LOIS LANE, Vol. 14, No. 117, December, 1971. Published monthly, (semi-monthly Sept.) by NATIONAL PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS, INC., 2nd & Dickey Sts., Sparta, Ill., 62286. EDITORIAL, EXECUTIVE OFFICES, 909 THIRD AVENUE, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022. Carmine Infantino, Publisher. E. Nelson Bridwell, Editor. Sol Harrison, Production Manager. Ed Lelacher, Circulation Director. Second Class Postage Paid at New York, N.Y. and Additional Mailing Offices. For advertising rates address Sanford Schwarz & Co., Inc., 16 West 46th Street, New York, N.Y. 10036. Copyright © National Periodical Publications, Inc., 1971. All rights reserved under International and Pan-American Copyright Conventions. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. No actual persons, living or dead, are intended or should be inferred.

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SUMMONED TO THE OFFICE OF MORGAN EDGE, PUBLISHER OF METROPOLIS' DAILY PLANET AND PRESIDENT OF THE GALAXY BROADCASTING SYSTEM, LOIS LANE AND CLARK KENT FACE THE FAMOUS "SMILING COBRA!"
THINGS HAVE BEEN TAME AROUND HERE LATELY! I WANT NEWS!
SO WHAT DO WE DO? GO OUT AND ROB A BANK?
VERY FUNNY, MISS LANE! BUT SOMETHING NEWSWORTHY MUST BE HAPPENING IN THE CITY! IT'S YOUR JOB TO FIND IT!
AS HIS BAFFLED REPORTERS LEAVE, EDGE PRESSES A DESK STUD--AND ACTIVATES A HIDDEN TELE-COMMUNICATOR...
ZZLIK
LOIS AND KENT WOULD FLIP IF THEY KNEW THERE WAS A HEADLINE STORY RIGHT UNDER THEIR NOSES!
IS THIS A SECRET CORNER OF MORGAN EDGE'S SOUL THAT THE SECRET VIEWER REVEALS TO HIS UNBLINKING STARE?
TIME WILL UNLOCK THE MYSTERY!
2

MEANWHILE, METROPOLIS, LIKE ANY GREAT CITY, HAS ALWAYS BEEN A PANDORA'S BOX TEEMING WITH LAUGHTER AND TEARS -- COMEDY AND TRAGEDY -- PEACE AND VIOLENCE -- UNTIL NOW...
SORRY, MISS LANE! NOT A SINGLE CRIME HAS BEEN REPORTED TODAY!
THANKS, SERGEANT...
NOT A THING TO REPORT, MR. KENT! NOT EVEN SOMEONE ACCIDENTALLY FALLING IN THE RIVER!
I GET THE PICTURE, OFFICER! I'LL LOOK ELSEWHERE!
METROPOLIS POLICE
I CAN'T REMEMBER A QUIETER DAY! NO STUDENT UNREST OF ANY KIND! YOU CAN SEE FOR YOURSELF!
I DO...
BLACK IS BEAUTIFUL
LOVE
PEACE IS WONDERFUL
THE MILITANTS AREN'T MARCHING TODAY! THEY'RE FEEDING SLUM CHILDREN MILK! IT'S NICE TO HAVE THINGS QUIET FOR A CHANGE!
YES...
DESPITE ALL OUR WARNINGS -- ADULTS, TEENAGERS, CHILDREN -- DIE OF DRUG ABUSE! NOTHING TO MAKE THE FRONT PAGES ANY MORE!
THAT'S WHAT'S SO TERRIBLE! PEOPLE ARE ACCEPTING IT AS ROUTINE! THE WORST OF CRIMES...COMMITTED AGAINST ONE'S SELF!
3

A FEW HOURS LATER... AT THE LAKE IN METROPOLIS PARK...
IF THERE WERE ONLY SOME WAY OF SHOCKING PEOPLE INTO ACTION AGAINST THE RAVAGES OF DRUGS! BUT-- I CAN'T THINK OF ANY NEW WAY TO DO IT!

SUDDENLY, AT THE SIGHT OF THE MAN OF STEEL...
SUPERMAN! I SUPPOSE YOU'VE BEEN OUT ON PATROL! HAVE YOU SEEN ANYTHING THAT WOULD MAKE HEADLINE NEWS? I'VE DRAWN A BLANK!

SO HAVE I! BOTH AS CLARK KENT AND SUPERMAN!
I'VE NEVER SEEN METROPOLIS SO QUIET, LOIS! CAN'T SAY I'M SORRY! IT GIVES ME A CHANCE TO SPEND SOME TIME WITH YOU!

YOU'RE TRAILING YOUR HAND IN THE WATER LIKE A DREAMING, LITTLE GIRL--

I'M NOT A LITTLE GIRL! NO LITTLE GIRL COULD FEEL WHAT I FEEL FOR YOU! AWAKE--OR DREAMING--!

SUPERMAN--LOOK! A BOTTLE WITH A NOTE IN IT FLOATED RIGHT INTO MY HAND! MAYBE IT WAS SENT OUT BY A SAILOR MAROONED ON AN ISLAND!
DREAM ON, LOIS! IT WAS PROBABLY SENT OUT BY SOME KID PLAYING IN THE PARK!
I MUST BE DREAMING! THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE! YOU READ IT!
"HELP!--FOR GOD'S SAKE! WHOEVER READS THIS, PLEASE COME TO OUR AID! OR THE UPMEN WILL SLAUGHTER ALL US DOWNMEN LEFT IN METROPOLIS!"
AND LOOK AT THE DATE... AUGUST 15, 2196! IF IT'S NOT A HOAX, THAT S.O.S. CAME FROM 225 YEARS IN THE FUTURE!

SUPERMAN-- THERE'S MY HEADLINE NEWS! ANSWERING AN S.O.S. FROM METROPOLIS IN 2196! IF IT'S REAL...
IT IS! MY MICROSCOPIC VISION SHOWS THIS PAPER IS OF A DIFFERENT TYPE FROM ANY KNOWN IN THE PAST OR PRESENT!
HOLD YOUR BREATH, LOIS! I'LL HAVE TO PROTECT YOU WITH MY CAPE WHILE WE SPEED TWO CENTURIES THROUGH THE TIME BARRIER!
ZOOOOOOM
IN A DAZZLING INSTANT, THE MAN OF STEEL PIERCES THE CALENDAR OF TIME!
OUR TRIP IS OVER, LOIS!
VROOOOOOOM--
SO THIS IS METROPOLIS IN THE FUTURE! THE SKYSCRAPERS ARE INTACT! BUT THE STREETS ARE OVERGROWN LIKE A JUNGLE! WITH ABANDONED CARS EVERYWHERE!
PEOPLE-- BEING HUNTED DOWN LIKE ANIMALS!
CONTINUED ON 2 ST PAGE FOLLOWING

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W24

THE METROPOLIS MARVEL ALIGHTS LIKE A SHIELD BETWEEN THE HUNTED AND THE HUNTERS!
BEEEEOW
ZIIIINGGG
EEEEERV
A MIGHTY STRANGER COMES TO OUR AID!
PERHAPS THE S.O.S. YOU SENT OUT IN A BOTTLE REACHED HIM, UR!
NO ONE RECOGNIZES YOU, SUPERMAN! AS IF ALL RECORDS OF THE PAST HAVE BEEN DESTROYED -- IN THE SHORT SPAN OF A COUPLE OF CENTURIES!
WE'LL TEACH THIS INTRUDER THAT DARING TO HELP THE DOWNMEN -- MEANS DEATH! SET YOUR GUNS ON MAXIMUM - KILL!
LIKE A SUPER-MATADOR, SUPERMAN WHIRLS HIS CAPE AGAINST THE BULL-LIKE RUSH OF THE HUNTERS!
VROOOM
VROOOSH
VREEEE
LAAAAASH
IT ONLY TOOK A MOMENT FOR SUPERMAN TO FLATTEN THOSE VICIOUS UPMEN INTO DOWNMEN!
IT'S EASY TO TELL WHO RULES THIS CITY! BUT WHAT BROUGHT THOSE POOR PEOPLE TO THEIR WRETCHED STATE... TREATED LIKE HUNTED BEASTS?

I AM SELN-NNOL, LEADER OF THE UPMEN! WELCOME, STRANGER!
I HAVE NO QUARREL WITH A POWERFUL FIGHTER LIKE YOU! LET ME SHOW MY ADMIRATION FOR YOU BY HAVING YOU DINE WITH ME!
COME WITH ME TO MY TOWER, STRANGER-- YOU AND YOUR LOVELY COMPANION—THAT WE MAY TALK OVER FOOD AND DRINK!
THE HUNTED HAVE ESCAPED HARM!
WE MUST ACCEPT SELN-NNOL'S INVITATION IF WE'RE TO LEARN WHAT HAPPENED TO CHANGE METROPOLIS INTO THIS-- THIS JUNGLE!
SHORTLY, IN A LOFTY SKYSCRAPER TOWER SUITE...
DRUGS USED TO BE GROWN AND PROCESSED IN DIFFERENT COUNTRIES... AND SOLD BY CRIMINALS!
IT WAS WASTEFUL! EXPENSIVE! AND THOSE DRUGS MADE PEOPLE INCAPABLE OF WORKING WELL!
WE UPMEN DESTROYED ALL EARTH DRUGS! INSTEAD, WE GROW THE TLE-PLANT, IMPORTED FROM ANOTHER WORLD! IT ENSLAVES THE DOWMEN'S MINDS, SO THEY MUST OBEY US!
IF THEY TRY TO BREAK THE HOLD THE TLE-NECTAR HAS ON THEM, WE HAVE THE SPORT OF HUNTING THEM DOWN!

THE DOWNMEN ARE SLAVES TO THE NECTAR! WE UPMEN LIVE OFF THEIR SWEAT! ALL PAST HISTORICAL RECORDS ARE OUTLAWED! WE LIVE FOR TODAY!
SENSATIONAL! ISN'T IT, LOIS?
GROOVY, SUPERMAN!

SUPERMAN? I NEVER HEARD OF YOU, STRANGER! BUT--NO MATTER! I CAN SEE YOU ARE ONE OF US!
HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN US IN A HUNT?
SOUNDS LIKE FUN, DOESN'T IT, LOIS?
A GAS, SUPERMAN! IF YOU CAN DISENTANGLE YOURSELF FROM THESE DOLLS!

SHORTLY...ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN...
THE GAME LURKS IN THESE WOODS, SUPERMAN! THE OBJECT OF THIS HUNT IS TO SMASH YOUR WAY THROUGH THEM... AND REACH ME ATOP THE HILL BEYOND THE WOODS!
YOU'D BETTER HURRY! OR WE'LL GET THERE FIRST!

AS LOIS AND THE MAN OF STEEL PASS THROUGH THE WOODS...
WE OWE YOU OUR LIVES, STRANGER! DON'T GO ANY FURTHER! NO ONE HAS LIVED TO REACH THE TOP OF THE HILL!
NOTHING CAN STOP SUPERMAN! BYE--BYE!

FOLLOWED BY THE STARING EYES OF THE FUGITIVES...
S-SUPERMAN--? WH-WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME? TH-THE GROUND IS TILTING!
MY-MY VISION IS AFFECTED TOO!
TH-THE SUN'S OUT! B-BUT I'M FREEZING!
M-MY BLOOD S-SEEMS TO BE TURNING TO ICE-- BUT M-MAYBE I CAN WARM YOU IF I H-HOLD YOU CLOSE!
I'VE NEVER BEEN SO SICK-- SO NAUSEATED-- M-MY STOMACH'S TWISTING INTO KNOTS!
MINE, TOO, LOIS! I-I FEEL AS IF I'M BEING WRENCHED INSIDE OUT!
L-LET ME GO! I-- I WANT TO DIE! ANYTHING IS B-BETTER THAN THIS AGONY!
THE FOOD AND DRINK--THEY MUST HAVE CONTAINED TLE NECTAR!
I'M AFFECTED, TOO! SELN-NNOL SAID THEY BROUGHT THE PLANTS FROM ANOTHER PLANET! MUST'VE BEEN UNDER A RED SUN... LIKE MY WORLD... KRYPTON!
10

RACKED WITH UNBEARABLE PAIN-- STUMBLING IN A HOSTILE WORLD...
S-SUPERMAN! CAN'T YOU SEE I FEEL L-LIKE A TORTURED INSECT WHOSE WINGS ARE BEING TORN OUT?
HAVE MERCY! I-I CAN'T GO ON! T-TAKE ME BACK TO THE TOWER! PLEASE!
I'LL T-TAKE ANYTHING TO STOP TH-THIS AGONY! THE TLE-NECTAR...
NO, LOIS! TH-THAT'S JUST HOW TO GET TRAPPED...LIKE THE DOWNMEN! NEEDING THE NECTAR TO KEEP GOING!
WE'VE GOT TO KEEP WALKING! REMEMBER...IF WE 'TAKE THE NECTAR AGAIN, WE'LL DO ANYTHING THE UPMEN TELL US...AS WE DID BEFORE! WALK!

A RENDING ETERNITY OF STUMBLING THROUGH A TWISTING TUNNEL OF TORMENT... THEIR EYES WRENCHED OUT OF THEIR SOCKETS... TORTURED LUNGS GASPING FOR BREATH... BONES CRACKING IN AN INVISIBLE VICE -- LOIS AND *SUPERMAN* STRUGGLE TOWARDS THE PALE, DISTANT LIGHT MARKING AN END TO THEIR BATTLE AGAINST THE RUTHLESS STRANGLEHOLD OF THE *TLE-NECTAR!*

LIKE ASHEN GHOSTS FINALLY EMERGING FROM THE DARK WOODS OF DESPAIR INTO THE SUNLIGHT OF THE LIVING...

WE'VE WON, LOIS! (GASP) THROWN OFF THE NECTAR'S HOLD! I'M PROUD OF YOU! (GASP)

(GASP) THE EYES OF THE POOR SOULS IN THE WOODS BEHIND US-- (GASP) ARE ON US!-- (GASP) THINK WE'VE CONVINCED THEM (GASP) *THEY* CAN BEAT THE *TLE* TOO?

NOT UNTIL THE BATTLE AGAINST THE UPMEN IS OVER!

THEY'RE WAITING! LAUGHING! IN THEIR STRONGHOLD ATOP THE HILL! WE'VE GOT TO *BEAT* THEM!

GOODBYE, LOIS! STAY HERE WHERE IT'S SAFE!

NO ONE IS SAFE -- AS LONG AS THIS EVIL PLAGUE EXISTS! THIS BATTLE ISN'T ONLY *YOURS! I'M GOING WITH YOU*... WHERE I *BELONG!*

AS THE GRIM COUPLE RACES HAND IN HAND UP THE HILL...
(COUGH-COUGH-GASP)
VROOOSH
THROOOSH
GAS SHELLS!
WHROOOSH
VROOOSH
CAN'T--(GASP)--BREATHE!... (COUGH-COUGH)--GO ON--WITHOUT ME! NEVER MIND--(GASP)--ME! I DON'T--(COUGH-COUGH)--COUNT! BEATING THEM--(GASP)--DOES!
LOIS!
WE STARTED THIS FIGHT TOGETHER, LOIS! WE'LL FINISH IT TOGETHER! MY INDESTRUCTIBLE CLOAK WILL PROTECT YOU FROM THE GAS!
13

WH-WHAT'S HAPPENING? TH-THE SKY IS BENEATH MY FEET!
THE GAS HAS AFFECTED MY VISION! MAKES THE WORLD SEEM UPSIDE DOWN! SEEING THE SKY DOWN THERE IS SUPPOSED TO PANIC ME!
IF ALL HISTORICAL RECORDS HADN'T BEEN DESTROYED--SELN-NNOL WOULD HAVE KNOWN THAT THIS BOOBYTRAP CAN'T STOP ME! I'M USED TO FLYING!
BLAAAAAAM
BAAAAAAAAM
14

SUPERMAN'S FLYING OUT OF OUR TRAP! KILL HIM! FIRE! -- FIRE!
NO USE! HE WON'T DIE!
LOTS OF HOODS HAVE FOUND THAT OUT!
THE ACTION ACE AIMS A MIGHTY KICK AT THE HITHERTO IMPREGNABLE BLOCKHOUSE!
W-WE S-SURRENDER... WE S-SURRENDER!
KRUDOOOSH
IT'S ALL OVER, LOIS! YOU CAN LOOK NOW!
CRAAACKK
THIS FIGHT IS OVER, SUPERMAN! BUT THE DOWNMEN STILL REMAIN! AND THE TLE FARMS!
IF YOU WANT TO LIVE LIKE HUNTED ANIMALS -- STAY WHERE YOU ARE! IF NOT -- FOLLOW ME AND HELP ME DESTROY THE TLE FARMS THAT ENSLAVE AND DESTROY YOU!
IF WE SHOOK ITS EFFECT -- SO CAN YOU! WILL YOU HELP US HELP YOURSELVES?
YES! YOU PROVED IT CAN BE DONE! LEAD ON!

UNDER THE VOLCANIC INTENSITY OF SUPERMAN'S HEAT VISION, THE TLE FARMS BURST INTO FLAMES...
VROOOOOOSH!

YOU'VE FREED US! THANKS-- AND FAREWELL!
YOU'VE TAKEN THE FIRST STEP! THE REST IS UP TO YOU! IT'S YOUR CHOICE! TO LIVE LIKE HUMANS AND MAKE A NEW WORLD FOR YOURSELVES! OR FIND ANOTHER WAY TO DESTROY YOURSELVES!

AS THE MAN OF STEEL BURSTS BACK THROUGH THE TIME-BARRIER WITH LOIS...
NO OTHER GIRL CAN EVER SAY... THAT HER KISS LASTED... 225 YEARS!

IS THAT WHAT MUST HAPPEN, SUPERMAN? ALIEN PLANTS USED TO ENSLAVE EARTH'S PEOPLE?
NO, LOIS... WE SAW ONE OF MANY POSSIBLE FUTURES! THERE'S STILL TIME FOR PEOPLE TO AVOID IT... IF THEY CARE ENOUGH!
END

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Dear Mr. Bridwell:

"That which we call a rose By any other word would smell as sweet," a famous writer once wrote. I'm not so famous, but my nose doth detect the same sweetness in *Lois Lane* #112. A Tree Grew in Brooklyn, but the Tree that Grew in *Metropolis* had the odor of Chanel #5, or a Cary Bates #1 story.

The ego trip *Lois* caused the tree *Rzalin* to go on, I think discredited *Superman's* statement: "It seems human minds aren't developed enough to keep it alive." It seems to me that *Lois* not only kept the tree alive, but was also able to destroy it with an overdose of her own true love for *Superman.*

And speaking of roses again, we come to *Rose and the Thorn.* I guess when you're wearing good cologne, the scent lingers on. Dick Giordano's art? C'est tres bien! Dick is the only artist for *The Thorn* in my book. And the way we see her changing identities on page 4 is *new and different.* Pages 7 and 8 show us how versatile *The Thorn* is. The only thing wrong with page 8 is that the story ends there.

Nicholas Pascale, Brooklyn, N.Y.

(Thanks, Nick. Unfortunately, Dick got a bit behind schedule, due to a huge workload, so we got Rich Buckler to fill in on the pencils this month. But fortunately, Dick was able to ink it. We think they're both excellent artists—don't you?—E.N.B.)

*****

Dear Editor:

You've really done it now! *Lois Lane* 112, "A Tree Grows in Metropolis," was absolutely the worst story ever printed! Even though it was a dream, well . . . it was sickening having a tree say, "I love you, *Superman!*" Having *Lois Lane* jealous of a tree is ridiculous!

The story wasn't all bad! The art, at least, was presentable.

Hey, I've got an idea. Why don't you have *Superman* finally propose to *Lois,* and have her jilt him for a rosh bush???

Sylvia McCorkle, Savannah, Ga.

(Don't be silly—she'll soon find out that a Rose *always has a* Thorn!—E.N.B.*)*

*****

Dear Editor:

I liked *Lois Lane* #112, but didn't like paying 25c for it. So I should get off the subject of the price and compliment you on the latest *Lois Lane* Magazine. The *Lois* story was great. When I first opened the mag, panel 4 of page 1 caught my eye. It looked like *Lois* was nude, but her body was hidden by that greenery. Well, if she had been shown in her natural beauty, you would have been in trouble with the Comics Code Authority. But the story was fine—even the title. It fit the story like a glove.

The other *Lois* story was okay, but it was too much like the old comic style.

Now about *The Thorn.* There is only one word I can say about her and that is *great!* I thought when Andru and Esposito left you at DC, you would stick her with some terrible artist. But Dick Giordano is terrific. Please don't lose him. I lose interest in a character when a poor artist draws it. You see, I'm an artist, too, and I admire a good artist. When Dick does *The Thorn,* it looks as though I could reach out and take her hand and she would step out of the picture. Page 4 is my favorite because he shows *The Thorn* sitting on her legs changing from her costume. There he shows every muscle, every curve in her body perfectly. He even mastered the part of the body that I find very hard to draw—the feet.

Gene Heavrin, Louisville, Ky.

(I, the Editor, have had some experience in cartooning, myself. So, like you, I want to see good art. Hence, when I picked Dick, and Rich, too, I got the best I could for the job! Agreed?—E.N.B.)

*****

Dear Editor:

All of a sudden, the *Rose and the Thorn* strip gets good. And I know why. Dick Giordano. Yeah, the fellow who used to draw *Sarge Steele* and *Nukla.* The guy who is one of the great cartoonists of our time. The chap with the fluid action scenes. The genius who raised *R&T* to one of the best-drawn DC features after Andru-Esposito and then Gray Morrow made it one of the worst. The artist who better stay on, or I'll type bloody murder!!!

As for little *Lois Lane,* I'd rather not discuss it because I just ate breakfast.

All of a sudden the *Rose and the Thorn* strip gets good . . .

Joe Farara, Canton, Mass.

(Well, you've doubtless made a friend of Dick. But we don't think the same could be said for Andru, Esposito, Morrow, and the guys who did that Lois *story.—E.N.B.)*

*****

Dear Editor:

"Rock and Rose," the latest *Thorn* escapade, in *Lois Lane* #112, was not the blockbuster it was cracked up to be. Dick Giordano's art is certainly top rate, but the style isn't what the strip calls for. Mr. Giordano tends to focus on the mysterious angles of his drawings, something which, in *Rose and the Thorn*, seems almost laughable. I do concede that the *Lashing Lorelei's* mode of action and her dual personality offer a tone of suspense, but I can't help feeling that the attempts to make *The Thorn* a "creature of the night" only make the strip a farce. Since *Thorn* has a very obvious weakness in *Rose's* naive character, and the *100* is a very realistic menace, I think both writer and artist alike must strive for another plane of atmosphere, even if it means resorting to the trite "secret agent" sort of thing. Only *Thorn's* original artists, Andru and Esposito, were able to strike the happy medium of suspense and crime-fighting without clogging the drain with any "will-o'-the-wisp" approach. Assign Dick Giordano to *Phantom Stranger* or *House of Mystery*; get someone like Murphy Anderson or Dick Dillin to do *Rose and the Thorn*.

Scott Gibson, Sterling, Colo.

(And that, believe it or not, is the only letter we've received from someone who didn't like Dick's Thorn work!—E.N.B.*)*

*****

Dear Editor:

The August issue of *Lois Lane* was just too fantastic for words! I loved everything in it so much I thought I'd write and tell you about it. Let us begin with the main story. "A Tree Grows in Metropolis" was truly a masterpiece! It was one of the *best Lois Lane* stories I've read in a long, long time!

However, it *did* have one fault! I mean, here we are, at the thrilling climax of this fabulous tale: *Lois'* sweetheart, *Superman*, being turned into a tree by an alien, female tree who wants to mate with *Supie* so that they can eventually turn everyone on Earth into a tree and become masters of this new race. *Lois* is crying hysterically at the sight of it all, because she is helpless to do anything about it.

Just then, when Cary Bates had us all sitting on the edge of our seats, wondering how he would get *Lois* and *Supie* out of *this* predicament, *WHAMMO!*, he hit us smack in the face with the *perfect* cop-out, a *dream* (and by the tree, yet)! Good grief, what a let-down!

I personally feel that the story would have been a *lot* better if Mr. Bates had taken the *time* to think of a way to have *Lois* save the day by somehow finding a way to turn *Superman* back into a human; then they'd have teamed up and, somehow, overcome the alien tree. I'm sure that if *he* had thought of this possibility, Mr. Bates could have filled in the minor details that I've left out—because, after all, Bates is a genius (when he wants to be)!

But, other than this point, the story was okay—and Werner Roth did an *outstanding* job on the artwork, too!

The second story, "Superman's Secret Family," was also good. I'm glad you reprinted it, because this was one story I missed when it first came out. I was also glad to see this story because it gave me a chance to see Kurt Schaffenberger's artwork again. He was the *best* artist *Lois ever* had!

The conclusion of the latest *Rose and the Thorn* tale was much, much better than the first half, in *LL* #111 (art-wise, that is!). "The Law of the 100" was illustrated by Gray Morrow, who made *The Thorn* look like a brunette version of actress Dyan Cannon!! However, "Rock and Rose" was *beautifully* illustrated by the one and only Dick Giordano! He has managed to bring back the aura of mystery to *The Thorn* that had disappeared along with Andru and Esposito.

Now, before I end this letter, I'd like to thank you, Mr. Bridwell, (and anyone else at DC who was responsible) for *finally* making *Lois Lane* a *monthly* publication! Not only will I see my very favorite magazine more *often*, but I will see much *more* of it, now that it's expanded to 48 pages!

Robert Lugo, New York, N.Y.

(Frankly, if Cary Bates had come up with the formula "Lois and Supie defeat the menace" ending, he might not have sold the story. We prefer the incredible twist that the tree had been fantasizing on mental energy from the two—and that Lois' failure to save Superman *in the dream was paralleled by the tree's failure to survive on Earthly brain-waves.*—E.N.B.*)*

*****

Dear Editor:

Wow! Like I mean *fantastic!* I actually thought you'd never do it. *Lois Lane* #112 has to be the best collection of tales in one comic yet.

First off, "A Tree Grows in Metropolis" was really a smash. I think the surprise ending was completely . . . surprising!!! No one would have thought that all those things which were happening were the tree's dream! This story really played up *Lois'* love for *Superman* and vice-versa!

The tale from *Lois Lane* #30 was just the same—it played up their love like nobody's business! The story of *Robot X-3* was really, well, uh . . . I don't have words!!!?

Finally . . . "Rock and Rose" was *very well done!* I'm glad to see you haven't stopped because of the loss of the original artists. In fact, I like the new look *Rose* and *Thorn* have taken on—seems more natural! The battle of her dual identities and *Rose's* outbreak were cool.

Thank God for monthly publishing.

Linda Whitfield, Ottawa, Ont.

(And for faithful, enthusiastic readers to buy them!—E.N.B.*)*

*****

Remember—the address for all comments on *Lois* is LETTERS TO LOIS AND ROSE, National Periodical Publications, 909 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022.

VALERIE VAUGHN, SOCIETY GIRL TURNED REPORTER, IS BETTER KNOWN AS *LADY DANGER* BECAUSE OF HER DARING AND COURAGE WHATEVER HER ASSIGNMENT. HER LATEST TASK IS THE MOST AMAZING YET– FOR THE MOST DIFFICULT PART PROVES THE EASIEST, AND THE EASIEST PROVES ALMOST FATAL... AS *LADY DANGER* UNRAVELS THE MYSTERY OF...

"THE NEEDLE IN THE HAYSTACK!"

LADY DANGER

VALERIE (LADY DANGER) YAUGHN IS SUMMONED BY HER EDITOR...
CHIEF! YOU'RE SMILING! WHAT HAPPENED? AN EARTHQUAKE? FLOOD? FIRE?
NEITHER! YOU'RE GOING TO THE CHARITY BAZAAR AT THE CIVIC FAIR GROUNDS. LOOK FOR A NEEDLE IN A HAYSTACK AND DO A FEATURE ON IT!
WHY DON'T YOU GIVE ME SOMETHING EASIER TO DO, CHIEF - LIKE JUMPING OFF THE SILVER GATE BRIDGE!
LATER, AT THE CIVIC FAIR GROUNDS...
THE CHIEF WOULDN'T TELL ME WHAT HE MEANT-- SAID I'D FIND OUT FOR MYSELF!
CIVIC CHARITY BAZAAR
COME ONE, COME ALL!
Charity Bazaar
ENTRANCE
A FEW MOMENTS LATER...
NOW HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO FIND A NEEDLE IN A HAYSTACK, IF I CAN'T EVEN FIND THE HAY-STACK? UM-OH! I SEE IT ALL NOW!
CLEVER IDEA! IT'S ATTRACTING MANY DONATIONS! I'LL WRITE A STORY ABOUT THE PERSON WHO FINDS THE NEEDLE!
DONATE YOUR CHARITY DOLLAR HERE - WITH A VALUABLE PRIZE!
DONATE ONE DOLLAR TO CHARITY AND FIND THE NEEDLE IN THE HAYSTACK
2

LADY DANGER

FIFTEEN MINUTES LATER...
THAT'S THE FIFTEENTH PERSON WHO'S FAILED TO FIND THE NEEDLE! IT MUST BE ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO FIND!
I DIDN'T THINK ANYTHING WAS IMPOSSIBLE FOR LADY DANGER!
WELL-IF IT ISN'T GRATH, THE NEW LOOK SHERLOCK HOLMES! WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?
THE CHARITY COMMISSION HIRED ME TO KEEP MY EYE ON THE VALUABLE DISPLAY EXHIBITS! THESE BAZAARS SOMETIMES ATTRACT NASTY CUSTOMERS!
DEAR ME-NO LUCK! IT REALLY IS LIKE TRYING TO FIND A NEEDLE IN A HAYSTACK!
COME ON, GRATH-LET'S SEE IF WE CAN FIND THE NEEDLE!
I HAVE TO GET BACK TO WORK! SEE YOU LATER!
SUDDENLY...
I'VE GOT IT! I FOUND THE NEEDLE!
YOU WON! AND HERE IS YOUR PRIZE--A BEAUTIFUL VASE!
I MUST GET HIS NAME FOR MY STORY!
NEVER MIND THE PRIZE! I'LL JUST KEEP THE NEEDLE AS--AS A SOUVENIR!
AS THE MAN DISAPPEARS INTO THE CROWD--
HE'S GONE!
AND HE'S TAKEN OUR ONLY NEEDLE! I'LL HAVE TO GET ANOTHER ONE QUICKLY--BEFORE THE CROWDS GO AWAY!
CONTINUED ON 5TH PAGE FOLLOWING

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LADY DANGER

I MIGHT AS WELL TRY MY LUCK WHEN THEY'VE REPLACED THE NEEDLE! IF I FIND IT-I'LL WRITE AN EYE-WITNESS STORY! I'LL USE THAT FINDER'S CLAW POLE-- MAYBE IT WILL BRING ME LUCK, TOO!
SUDDENLY...
GOODNESS-- WHAT'S HAPPENING?
MY HAIRPINS FLEW RIGHT OUT OF MY HAIR AND STUCK TO THE CLAW! SO THAT'S HOW HE FOUND THE NEEDLE! HE SUBSTITUTED A MAGNETIZED POLE FOR THE ORDINARY ONES!
THAT MAN MUST HAVE WANTED THAT NEEDLE PRETTY BADLY! I SMELL A STORY! I'VE GOT TO FIND THE LITTLE MAN BEFORE HE LEAVES THE GROUNDS!
AFTER QUICKLY PUTTING UP HER HAIR, LADY DANGER HURRIES TOWARD THE ENTRANCE...
THERE HE IS-GOING INTO THE CITY OF THE FUTURE EXHIBIT! AND THOSE MEN ARE FOLLOWING HIM! I'VE GOT TO FIND SOME OTHER ENTRANCE!
SEE THE CITY OF The Future
OPENING TOMORROW
MEANWHILE...
THIS IS AS FAR AS YOU GO, BLAKE!
NO--NO-- DON'T SHOOT!
4

LADY DANGER

INSIDE THE CITY OF THE FUTURE EXHIBIT...
WATCH YOUR AIM! WE WANT HIM ALIVE!
DON'T WORRY! JUST HAVING A LITTLE TARGET PRACTICE!
BANG! BANG!
HE'S CORNERED!
PLEASE—DON'T SHOOT!
AT THAT MOMENT...
THE CITY OF THE FUTURE HAS NO PLACE FOR CRIME!
IT'S LADY DANGER! BLAST 'ER!
VAL SEIZES A MINIATURE BUILDING, AND...
I WONDER WHY THEY WANT THIS MAN ALIVE?
UHH-H!
THE TRAFFIC PROBLEM IN HERE IS GETTING TOO HEAVY! I'LL HAVE TO SOLVE IT IN A HURRY!
5

LADY DANGER

MIND IF I PARK THIS WITH YOU?

NOW WE'VE GOT HER BOXED IN!
REACH!
ALL RIGHT! DON'T BE NERVOUS!

AS THE THUGS COME WITHIN LADY DANGER'S REACH—
YEOW! LEGGO!
LOOK OUT! THESE GUNS'LL GO OFF!
WE MUSTN'T LET THAT HAPPEN!

THERE! THE GUNS WON'T HARM ANYONE NOW!

THOSE THUGS WON'T HARM YOU ANYM— WHAT'S THE MATTER?
LOOK OUT!

GOOD SHOT! LUCKY WE SPLIT UP WHEN WE STARTED CHASIN' BLAKE!
YEAH--NOW LET'S GO GET 'IM!

LADY DANGER

SOMEONE'S COMIN'!
MIGHT BE THE POLICE! WE'VE GOT BLAKE! NEVER MIND LADY DANGER! LET'S SCRAM!
EXIT
A MOMENT LATER...
VAL! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
YES! BUT THAT GANG KIDNAPPED THE MAN WHO FOUND THE NEEDLE--OUCH!
THE NEEDLE! THE MAN MUST HAVE DROPPED IT ON THE FLOOR!
LET'S FIND OUT WHERE IT CAME FROM--WE MIGHT GET A LEAD ON THIS CASE!
AT THE CHARITY BAZAAR OFFICE, A FEW MOMENTS LATER...
THAT NEEDLE? WHY--IT WAS DONATED BY MRS. PHILIPPS STACEY BLAKE!
BLAKE! THAT'S WHAT THOSE THUGS CALLED THE MAN THEY KIDNAPPED! COME ON, GRATH!
SHORTLY, AT THE BLAKE MANSION..
I RETURN FROM MY BUSINESS TRIP AND WHAT DO I FIND? MY CALPURNIA NEEDLE GONE! IT WAS PRICELESS!
BUT, PHILIPPS! THE BAZAAR REQUIRED A SPECIAL NEEDLE FOR THE HAYSTACK! I DIDN'T KNOW IT WAS SO VALUABLE!
AT THAT MOMENT...
IS THIS WHAT YOU'RE MISSING?
THE CALPURNIA NEEDLE!

LADY DANGER

HOW DID YOU GET HOLD OF IT?
THAT'S A LONG STORY!
SUDDENLY...
LET'S CUT IT SHORT! HEIST 'EM!
CHANCES—THE GAMBLER!
WITH THE MAN WHO FOUND THE NEEDLE!
MR. BLAKE! HAND OVER THAT METAL BOX YOUR NEPHEW HERE TOLD ME ABOUT! I'LL ACCEPT IT FOR HIS GAMBLING DEBT TO ME!
PETER, HOW COULD YOU?
YOU CAN'T HAVE IT!
NOW, NOW--MR. BLAKE! IF CHANCES WANTS THAT BOX--
--LET HIM HAVE IT!
NICE CATCH, LIDO! NOW THAT WE'VE GOT WHAT WE WANT—SINK 'EM ALL WITH LEAD!
CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING!
8

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WHIR-RRRRRR

CRASH!

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YOU KNOW IT! WE'VE GOT THE SSP SMASH-UP DERBY!

CRUNCH!

"WITH RACERS THAT WORK JUST LIKE ALL SSP CARS...

PULL

WHIR-RRR-RR

READY TO RACE! NO BATTERIES! NO TRACK! GYRO-POWERED!

BUT WHAT A DIFFERENCE!"

WHAM!

DOORS, HOOD, WHEELS, TRUNK UP FLY OFF ON IMPACT!

"THE BIGGER THE SMASH-UP... THE MORE PIECES FLY OFF!"

WHRAMM

"AFTER AN EVENT— JUST SNAP TOGETHER AND YOU'RE READY FOR THE NEXT RACE!"

SNAP!

"WE USE THE JUMP RAMP/BARRIER THAT COMES WITH THE SET TO DO ALL KINDS OF SMASH-UP DERBY STUNTS!"

LEAPS

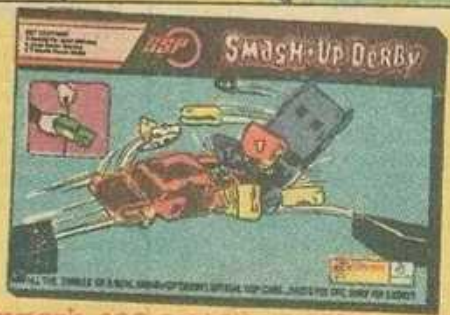
HILLTOP SMASHES

MID-AIR SCRUNCHERS

WALL CRUSHERS

BOY, IT'S GOT ALL THE THRILLS OF A REAL DEMOLITION DERBY!

CRASH!



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LADY DANGER

JUST THEN—
I'M FINISHED BEING AFRAID OF YOU CROOKS!
NICE WORK, PETER! NOW'S OUR CHANCE, GRATH!
STAND BACK, VAL! THIS ROUGH STUFF'S NOT FOR WOMEN!
THINK YOU CAN HANDLE THEM ALL BY YOURSELF, MR. HARDBOILED?
YOU ONLY GET IN THE WAY, VAL!
I'LL GIVE THAT KILLER THE NEEDLE BEFORE HE SHOOTS YOU!
OW!
GULP! THANKS FOR GETTING IN MY WAY!
DON'T MENTION IT!
NOW—WHAT'S THE STORY BEHIND THIS NEEDLE?
FIRST OF ALL—IT REALLY ISN'T A NEEDLE! IT'S A KEY!
9

LADY DANGER

THIS SEWING BOX ONCE BELONGED TO JULIUS CAESAR'S WIFE, CALPURNIA. THIS NEEDLE IS REALLY A KEY WHICH FITS PERFECTLY INTO A SECRET GROOVE -- AND OPENS THE BOX!
WOW! THERE'S A FORTUNE IN THERE!
PETER MUST HAVE SEEN ME USE THIS AS A SAFE!
AND WHEN MRS. BLAKE DONATED THE NEEDLE TO THE BAZAAR-WITHOUT KNOWING WHAT IT WAS-PETER HAD TO GET IT BACK!
YES! THE TIME FOR SETTLING MY GAMBLING DEBT WAS UP! I WAS AFRAID! IF I SMASHED THE BOX, YOU'D KNOW MONEY WAS MISSING... I HAD TO GET THAT KEY BACK! I THOUGHT I COULD REPLACE THE MONEY SOMEHOW BEFORE YOU MISSED IT!
LATER, AFTER THE GANG HAS BEEN JAILED...
THE GANG MADE ME LEAD THEM BACK HERE FOR THE BOX! I WANT TO PAY FOR MY MISTAKE!
BUT YOU TURNED ON THEM AND PROVED YOURSELF A MAN!
WHAT A STORY! COME ON, MR. MUSCLES!
GAMBLING ALWAYS PAYS OFF IN GRIEF!
LATER, AT THE CITY PRESS...
VAL! I'VE GOT A NEW ASSIGNMENT FOR YOU. I WANT YOU TO WRITE A STORY ABOUT A WILD GOOSE CHASE!
WHY DON'T YOU GIVE ME SOMETHING EASY-LIKE FINDING A NEEDLE IN A HAYSTACK!
SILENCE
THE END
10

ROSE AND THE THORN
WRITER: ROBERT KANIGHER
ARTIST: RICH BUCKLER
INKER: DICK GIORDANO
THIS HOUSE IS HAUNTED! SOMEWHERE IN THIS MANSION DWELLS A STRANGE AND TERRIFYING SPIRIT! THE GHOST IS IN THIS PICTURE! THE THORN CAN'T SEE IT! CAN YOU SPOT...
THE GHOST WITH TWO FACES!

UNAWARE WHY HER HEART SECRETLY POUNDS SO MADLY, GENTLE ROSE FORREST STARES, FASCINATED, AT HER TV SCREEN, AS HER FRIEND, DETECTIVE DANNY STONE, TENSELY WHISPERS...
THIS IS A FILM TAKEN BY AN AUTOMATIC SOUND CAMERA OF THE THORN TANGLING WITH THE METROPOLIS BANK ROBBERS!
THEY'RE LEAVING WITH THE NIGHT GUARD AS HOSTAGE! THE KILLERS HAVEN'T SPOTTED HER YET...
...BEHIND THAT PILLAR!
WE'LL USE THIS SQUARE AS A SHIELD-- THEN DUMP HIM IN A SEWER WHEN WE'RE THROUGH WITH HIM!
FORCED TO REVEAL HERSELF TO SAVE THE HOSTAGE'S LIFE-- THE NYMPH OF NIGHT SHOWERS THE KILLERS WITH MINIATURE CONCUSSION THORNS!
IT'S THE THORN! BURN 'ER DOWN!
DIVE-- GUARD!!
BAMPH!
BWOW!

THROUGH HER EXPLODING FIREWORKS-- THE THORN HURLS HERSELF AT THE RING OF FLAMING GUNS!
GTUSH
K-POK!
PYOW
KUPF
THUD!
AS THE AUTOMATIC CAMERA SEQUENCE ENDS..
WHO IS THE THORN, DANNY? A FEMALE ROBIN HOOD? A JOAN OF ARC? OR A DEVIL?
A LITTLE OF EACH, PERHAPS, ROSE! SOMETHING A SWEET KID LIKE YOU COULD NEVER UNDERSTAND!
GOT TO GO ON DUTY, ROSE! YOU'RE LEAVING FOR YOUR VACATION TOMORROW AT THE CAPE, AREN'T YOU?
BETTER BE CAREFUL, THERE'S BEEN A KIDNAPPING THERE-- A NEWSPAPER PUBLISHER AND HIS WIFE!
I WILL, DANNY! BUT I'LL LET YOU KNOW WHEN I'M SETTLED..
...SO YOU CAN VISIT ME FOR SOME SUN AND SWIMMING, FIRST CHANCE YOU HAVE!
3

THAT NIGHT--ROSE HAS A RECURRENT DREAM : IN WHICH SHE WANDERS UNTIL...
WHAT A CHARMING HOUSE!
MODERN HOUSE FOR RENT
IT'S JUST WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR!
I WONDER WHAT I'LL FIND INSIDE?
THE NEXT DAY...
LOOKS LIKE A BOX CONTAINING A DRESS!
WONDER WHO LEFT IT HERE? I'M LATE--LONG DRIVE TO THE CAPE! I'LL OPEN IT WHEN I'M SETTLED THERE!
AFTER HOURS OF DRIVING, ROSE STOPS TO SEE A REAL ESTATE AGENT ON THE CAPE...
WHY--IT'S THE HOUSE I DREAMED ABOUT! THE AGENT IS DRIVING PAST IT--BUT I'LL HONK MY HORN AND BRING HIM BACK!

AFTER ATTRACTING THE RELUCTANT AGENT'S ATTENTION..
I-I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D BE INTERESTED IN MOOR HOUSE, MISS FORREST... IT'S PRETTY ISOLATED!
I'VE DREAMED ABOUT A PLACE JUST LIKE THIS, MR. NELSON! IT'S EXACTLY WHAT I WANT! IS THERE ANY REASON I CAN'T RENT IT?
I MUST BE HONEST WITH YOU--THE LOCAL PEOPLE BELIEVE IT'S HAUNTED!! THAT'S WHY YOU CAN HAVE IT CHEAP--IF YOU STILL WANT IT!
I DON'T BELIEVE IN GHOSTS! OF COURSE I'LL TAKE IT!
IT'S CHARMING! JUST AS I IMAGINED! I KNOW I'LL BE HAPPY HERE!
GOOD--I'M GLAD! GOT TO RUN! IF--IF YOU NEED ME--JUST PHONE!
STRANGE-I WONDER WHO SENT ME THIS THORN COSTUME?
CHANGING...ROSE SUNS HERSELF ON THE DESERTED BEACH...
BET THAT THORN OUTFIT WOULD MAKE A HIT AT THE LOCAL COSTUME BALL... IF I HAD THE NERVE TO WEAR IT!
5

AS NIGHT FALLS, ROSE FALLS INTO A DEEP SLEEP...
...TOTALLY UNAWARE THAT HER OTHER PERSONALITY WILL TAKE POSSESSION OF HER...
...AND TRANSFORM HER INTO THE DARK, BALEFUL-- "THORN"!
AS THE NAIAD OF THE NIGHT ROAMS THE BEACH, HER FIGURE EERILY LIMNED BY THE MOONLIGHT...
I DUNNO, RALPHIE! WHAT IF THERE REALLY IS A GHOST HERE, AND...
SHHH... YOU'RE THE ONE WHO WANTED TO COME HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE! BESIDES...
HEY, LOOK!
GOSH, WAIT'LL THE OTHERS HEAR ABOUT THIS!

BY DAY, ROSE EMERGES GLISTENING GOLDEN FROM THE SURF..
SO QUIET AND PEACEFUL HERE! ALMOST...DESOLATE! SURE COULD USE SOME COMPANY!
BUT-- ONE NIGHT...AS ZACK ADLER, FAMOUS NATURE PHOTOGRAPHER, WORKS ON A LUNAR PHOTO-ESSAY...
THE MOON'S NOT COOPERATING TONIGHT! BUT SOME NOCTURNAL CREATURE IS RUSTLING IN THOSE SCRUB OAKS! I'LL SURPRISE IT WITH A FLASH SHOT!
IN THE EERIE GLARE OF THE FLASHLAMP..
POWWF!
GREAT GUNS! IT'S... HER!
THE BALEFUL BEAUTY FADES INTO THE DARKNESS...BUT ON A SUCCEEDING NIGHT...
LOVING COUPLES... MAKE ME FEEL SO LONELY!
LOOK... OVER THERE! ISN'T THAT...
YES... BUT I'M NOT AFRAID... SOMEHOW... SHE LOOKED --SO SAD!
CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING
7

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NOW YOU'LL MAKE THE FRONT PAGE! IF THERE'S ANYTHIN' LEFT OF YOU--- AFTER THE SHARKS GET THROUGH WITH YOU!
KILL ME IF YOU'RE SO DETERMINED... BUT PLEASE-- DON'T MURDER MY WIFE!
SUDDENLY...EXPLODING SMOKE-THORNS, AND...
OUT OF THE CURTAIN OF BILLOWING SMOKE...
NO... N-NOT... THAT!
PTOOFT!
I DON'T CARE WHAT IT IS! GUN IT!
KRUK!
CHOT!
I'LL PUT 'ER AWAY!
POW!
9

AS ELUSIVE AS A GUSH OF MAD MOONLIGHT...
CHOPP

...LASHING AS THE THORN WHOSE NAME SHE BEARS...

AFTER RELEASING THE CRUSADING COUPLE...
SHE CLOBBERED THOSE KILLERS AND GAVE US A SCOOP ON OUR OWN KIDNAPPING! NOW SHE'S FADING INTO THE NIGHT WITHOUT A SOUND!
BUT WHO... OR WHAT CAN SHE BE?

NIGHT MELTS INTO DAWN...
...AND THE THORN ONCE AGAIN ASSUMES HER TWIN IDENTITY...

AND ONCE AGAIN, THE OBSESSED THORN... LIKE A COIN FLIPPING TO ITS OTHER SIDE... SUBSIDES IN SLEEP AS THE GENTLE ROSE!
THAT AFTERNOON...
IF YOU WANT TO LEAVE MOOR HOUSE BECAUSE OF THE GHOST-- MISS FORREST--I'VE ANOTHER PLACE!
GHOST? I'VE SEEN NO GHOST?
BUT... IT'S BEEN SEEN ON THE BEACH... ALL OVER! HOW COULD YOU-- LIVING IN THE HOUSE-- HAVE MISSED IT?
I DON'T KNOW. SURE THOSE PEOPLE WEREN'T IMAGINING THINGS?
HERE'S THE PROOF! A PHOTO OF THE GHOST, PRINTED IN THE LOCAL PAPER! THE GHOST RESCUED THE PUBLISHER FROM THE KILLERS!
WHAT? BUT--
THAT'S NO GHOST.. IT'S THE THORN! WHAT'S SHE DOING AROUND HERE?
IF ONLY YOU KNEW, ROSE!
ROSE and the THORN
...WILL BE BACK HAUNTING THE HOUSE AGAIN IN THE JANUARY LOIS LANE ON SALE NOVEMBER 23rd!

Dear Editor:

In issue 112, a girl said that *Lois* was supposed to be with it and should wear the new fashions, like the midi and the maxi. You replied that midis and maxis had bombed. Do you mean that they aren't the in thing? If so, that's not true. It should be perfectly obvious to you that they are in and are going to stay for quite some time.

I think the *Lois Lane* mag is good, but she never has a story that doesn't involve *Superman*. Why can't she have romances with other fellows? After all, a girl shouldn't always stick to the same guy.

Diana Young, Nanaimo, B.C.

(Not even if the guy is Superman? *Actually, you must be a new reader.* Lois *has had lots of romances with other fellows. You may have seen some of these stories in our last* Giant Lois Lane *(we hope). As for the midi and maxi, we don't know how things are in Canada, but those styles were disasters in the U.S.! At this writing, in the summer of '71, hot pants are the rage—and we still see quite a few minis. But midis and maxis? Very few!*—E.N.B.*)*

* * * * *

Dear Editor:

Just a note to say I have no complaints with *Lois Lane* magazine. I'm glad the price jumped to 25c because the size increased, and now we fans get a new *Lois Lane* story drawn by Werner Roth and Vince Colletta, plus a classic story with art by Kurt Schaffenberger, and a *Rose and the Thorn* story (which I like).

Keep up the good work!

Jim Sturgeon, Point Pleasant, W.Va.

(Thanks. Sorry we can't have a classic Lois *story in every issue, since you like 'em so much. But we'd soon run out of good material—and we have our* Super-Spectaculars *to think about. So we've brought in some great features of the past—*Lady Danger *and* Dr. Pat, *both from* Sensation Comics *over 20 years ago. Tell us how you dig them.*—E.N.B.*)*

* * * * *

Dear Editor:

I would like to say something in response to a letter written by Marcie Newman in #112.

Dear Miss Newman: I think they were right in getting rid of *Lana Lang*. She's run her course and now it's time for something new—namely, *Rose and the Thorn*.

You say *Lois* is impetuous and jealous. She has to be impetuous to go with *Superman*. And wouldn't you like to know that your boy friend is jealous of other boys who talk to you? Don't hate *Superman;* he can't help being the person he is.

To conclude my letter, I'd like to say that I like *Rose* and her split personality very much. She's something new and different. I also think that following *Lana* all around Europe is a bad idea.

Gary Guinn, Nashville, Tenn.

(There are more new things in this magazine than Rose and the Thorn. *There's* Dave Stevens, *the new columnist on the* Planet; *there's* Lois' *new TV show*—People . . . U.S.A.; *and there's* Morgan Edge, *concerning whom we'll have a startling revelation in the next issue. It will tell the astounding origin of* Lois' *new boss, and reveal the truth about the other* Edge, *whom you've seen briefly already—on page 2 of this issue's* Lois *story, for instance.* Don't miss it!—E.N.B.*)*

* * * * *

Dear Editor:

Normally, I am not one to complain, but I have been reading your mags for some years, and I feel it is about time I wrote you about them. In the past, I have thoroughly enjoyed your mags, especially *Lois Lane*, but within the past year you have completely changed her, and I feel that many of the changes were unnecessary and not very good.

First, you changed artists. Kurt Schaffenberger did more for *Lois* than any of the other artists who have drawn her. Then you changed the title logo. You have the letters all squeezed in, and not at all attractive.

Next is your stories. There is hardly any rivalry between *Lois* and *Lana* any more, and you never have her meeting any old or new foes. The last time *Lois* met *Miss Gzptlsnz* was about three or four years ago. I don't know how long it has been since she's met *Luthor* or *Mr. Mxyzptlk*. Those were the good stories. I wish you would give the old *Lois* back to us.

The last problem is *Rose and the Thorn*. Oh, I like the stories well enough, only I don't feel they should appear in every issue with *Lois*. After all, she is the star. Since *Lois* is now a monthly, how about printing *The Thorn* every other month and devoting the other issues to a longer (and maybe better) *Lois* story?

Jeanne Hoberg, N. Merrick, N.Y.

* * * * *

Dear Editor:

I have been reading *Lois Lane* for quite a long time, and as the years have gone by, *Lois* has completely changed to a livelier state and has kept up with the times. Her body and face are more beautiful than twenty years ago. My mother does kind of disagree with me, because she is used to the old *Lois Lane*.

In #112, you show *Lois* wearing hot pants and boots. I happen to like the art very much. The stories are wonderful and very realistic.

I've noticed that you haven't been showing very much of *Lana Lang* lately, and she hasn't been doing too well with *Superman*. Why don't you have her get married to another man, and tell the story of how they meet and fall in love?

Mano Matthews, Bronx, N.Y.

(Maybe—some day. Meanwhile, these last two letters show the contrasting opinions about the new Lois. *What do you think, readers?*—E.N.B.*)*

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